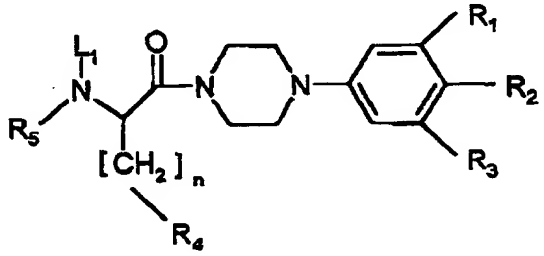
**REVISED CLAIMS**

1. A compound of formula (1):



formula (1)

wherein :

$L_1$ is hydrogen or methyl;

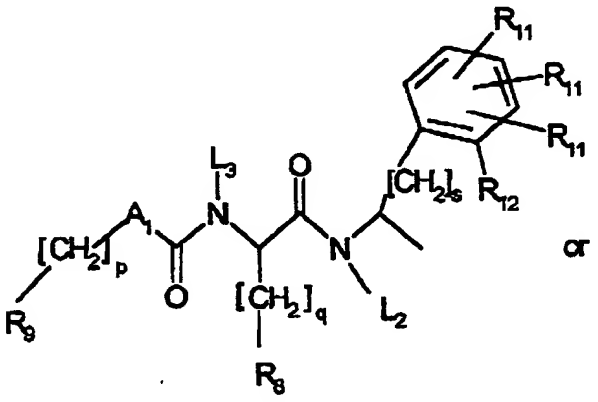
$R_1$ and $R_2$ and $R_3$ are each independently hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)carbamoyl, NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)carbamoyl or $C_{1-4}$alkoxycarbonyl;

$R_4$ is indole, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl) indole, $C_{5-7}$carbocyclic ring or aryl, any of which can be optionally substituted on ring carbon atoms with up to three substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy;

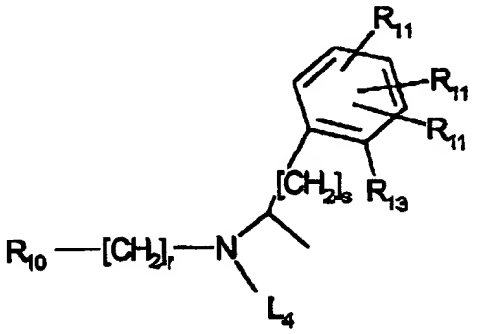
$R_5$ is hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, $R_6CH_2$— or $R_6C(O)$—;

$R_6$ is aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, or $R_7$; wherein the aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl rings may be optionally substituted with up to three substituents independently selected from nitro, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, $C_{1-4}$alkoxy, halo, ($C_{1-4}$alkyl)sulfanyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxycarbonyl, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl)carbamoyl, NN-(di$C_{1-4}$ alkyl)carbamoyl, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl)amino or NN-(di$C_{1-4}$ alkyl)amino;

wherein $R_7$ is either a group of formula (2) of formula (3):



Formula (2)



Formula (3)

wherein:

$L_2$, $L_3$ and $L_4$ are each independently hydrogen or methyl;

$R_8$ is amino, guanadino, imidazolo, any of which can be mono or di-N-substituted with $C_{1-4}$alkyl;

$A_1$ is oxygen or a direct bond;

$R_9$ is a $C_{5-8}$ membered mono-carbocyclic ring, a $C_{6-10}$ membered bi-carbocyclic ring, $C_{8-12}$ membered tri-carbocyclic ring, $C_{5-7}$alkyl or aryl, any of which can be optionally mono, bi or tri substituted by $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R_{10}$ is $C_{1-6}$alkyl or a $C_{3-8}$mono-carbocyclic ring;

$R_{11}$ is hydrogen, halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy;

$R_{12}$ is hydrogen or methyl or ethyl or $R_{12}$ together with $L_2$ forms a $C_{5-7}$ nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring;

$R_{13}$ is hydrogen or methyl ethyl or $R_{13}$ together with $L_4$ forms a $C_{5-7}$ nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring;

n is 0, 1 or 2;

p is 0, 1 or 2;

q is an integer from 1 to 6

r is 0, 1 or 2;

s is 0, 1 or 2;

provided that when $R_6$ is aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl or NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl then $R_5$ is other than $R_6CH_2$—; and when $R_1$ to $R_3$ are each hydrogen, $L_1$ is hydrogen, n is1, $R_4$ is phenyl, $R_5$ is $R_6C(O)$—, then $R_6$ cannot be 2-methyl-4-amino-butyl,

and excluding (S)-4-chloro-N-[1-(1H-indol-3-ylmethyl)-2-oxo-2-(4-phenyl-1-piperazinyl)ethyl]-N-methyl-benzamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein $R_5$ is hydrogen.

3 A compound according to claim 2 wherein $R_1$ is hydrogen; $R_2$ is nitro; $R_3$ is hydrogen; n is 1; $R_4$ is indole, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl)indole, cyclohexyl or phenyl any of which can be optionally substituted on ring carbon atoms with up to three substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy, $L_1$ is hydrogen and $R_5$ is hydrogen.

4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein $R_5$ is $R_6C(O)$—; $R_6$ is aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, or NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, wherein the aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl rings can be optionally substituted on ring carbon atoms with up to three substituents each independently selected from nitro, halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy.

5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein $R_1$ is hydrogen; $R_2$ is nitro; $R_3$ is hydrogen; n is 1; $L_1$ is hydrogen; and $R_6$ is aryl or heteroaryl wherein the aryl or heteroaryl can be optionally substituted on ring carbon atoms with up to three substituents each independently selected from nitro, halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy.

6. A compound according to claim 1 wherein $R_6$ is $R_7$.

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7. A compound according to claim 6 wherein $R_7$ is of Formula (2)

8. A compound according to claim 7 wherein $R_1$ is hydrogen; $R_2$ is nitro; $R_3$ is hydrogen; n is 1; $L_1$ is hydrogen; $L_2$ is hydrogen or methyl; q is an integer between 2 and 4; $R_8$ is amino; s is 1 and $L_3$ is hydrogen or methyl.

9. A compound according to claim 6 wherein $R_7$ is of Formula (3).

10. A compound according to claim 9 wherein $R_1$ is hydrogen; $R_2$ is nitro; $R_3$ is hydrogen; n is 1; s is 1 and $L_1$ is hydrogen,

11. A compound selected from the following:

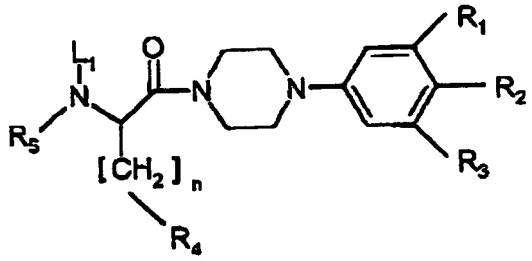
4,5-dimethoxy-2-nitrobenzoyl-Phe(4-Cl)-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
4,5-dimethoxy-2-nitrobenzoyl-NMe-Trp-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
4,5-dimethoxy-2-nitrobenzoyl-(D)($N^{in}$-Me)Trp-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
Z-(D)(NMe)Dab-(NMe)(D)Phe-(D)Trp-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
Z-NMe(D)Lys-NMe(D)Phe-(D)Phe(4-Cl)-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
cyclohexyl-CO-(D)Lys-(D)NMe-Phe-Cha-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
cyclohexyl-(D)Lys-(D)(NMe)Phe-(D)Phe(4-Cl)-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;
cyclohexyl-$CH_2$-(D,L)NMe-Phe{$CH_2NH$}(D)Trp-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl; and
cyclohexyl-(D)Lys-(D)(NMe)Phe-(D)hPhe-piperazine-4-nitrophenyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof.

12. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound according to claims 1 to 11 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. The use in the treatment of a warm-blooded animal, by therapy, a compound of formula (1), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof.

14. The use of a compound of Formula (4) in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer in a warm-blooded animal.



formula (4)

wherein :

$L_1$ is hydrogen or methyl;

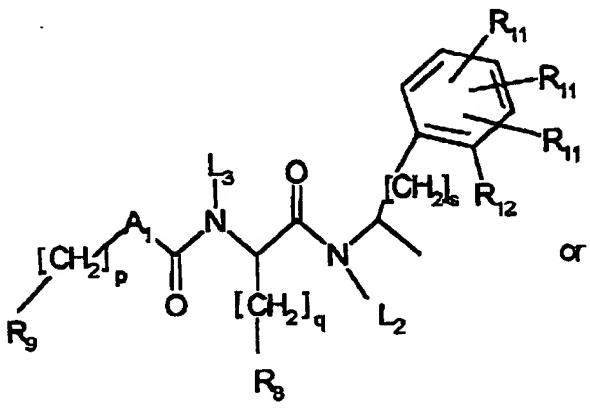
$R_1$ and $R_2$ and $R_3$ are each independently hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, carbamoyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)carbamoyl, NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)carbamoyl or $C_{1-4}$alkoxycarbonyl;

$R_4$ is indole, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl) indole, $C_{5-7}$carbocyclic ring or aryl, any of which can be optionally substituted on ring carbon atoms with up to three substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy;

$R_5$ is hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, $R_6CH_2$— or $R_6C(O)$—;

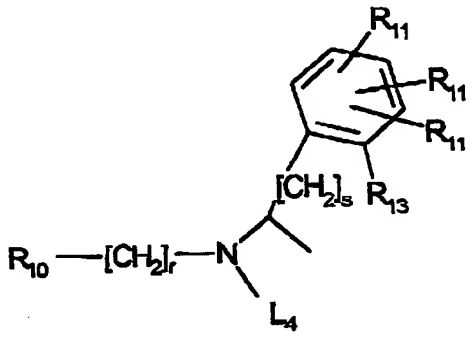
$R_6$ is aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, or $R_7$; wherein the aryl, heteroaryl or heterocyclyl rings may be optionally substituted with up to three substituents independently selected from nitro, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, $C_{1-4}$alkoxy, halo, ($C_{1-4}$alkyl)sulfanyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxycarbonyl, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl)carbamoyl, NN-(di$C_{1-4}$ alkyl)carbamoyl, N-($C_{1-4}$ alkyl)amino or NN-(di$C_{1-4}$ alkyl)amino;

wherein $R_7$ is either a group of formula (5) of formula (6):



Formula (5)

or



Formula (6)

wherein:

$L_2$, $L_3$ and $L_4$ are each independently hydrogen or methyl;

$R_8$ is amino, guanadino, imidazolo, any of which can be mono or di-N-substituted with $C_{1-4}$alkyl;

$A_1$ is oxygen or a direct bond;

$R_9$ is a $C_{5-8}$ membered mono-carbocyclic ring, a $C_{6-10}$ membered bi-carbocyclic ring, $C_{8-12}$ membered tri-carbocyclic ring, $C_{5-7}$alkyl or aryl, any of which can be optionally mono, bi or tri substituted by $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R_{10}$ is $C_{1-6}$alkyl or a $C_{3-8}$mono-carbocyclic ring;

$R_{11}$ is hydrogen, halo, $C_{1-4}$alkyl, or $C_{1-4}$alkoxy;

$R_{12}$ is hydrogen or methyl or ethyl or $R_{12}$ together with $L_2$ forms a $C_{5-7}$ nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring;

$R_{13}$ is hydrogen or methyl ethyl or $R_{13}$ together with $L_4$ forms a $C_{5-7}$ nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring;

n is 0, 1 or 2;

p is 0, 1 or 2;

q is an integer from 1 to 6

r is 0, 1 or 2;

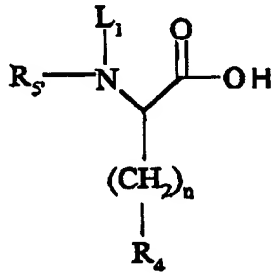
s is 0, 1 or 2;

provided that when $R_6$ is aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl, N-($C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl or NN-(di$C_{1-4}$alkyl)amino$C_{3-6}$alkyl then $R_5$ is other than $R_6CH_2$—; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof.

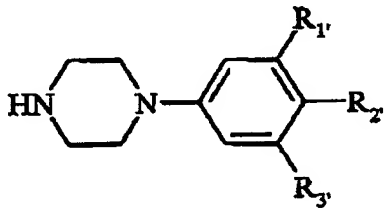
15. A method of treating cancers which comprises administering to a warm-blooded animal an effective amount of a compound of formula (4).

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (4), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically-acceptable diluent or carrier for the treatment of cancer in a warm-blooded animal.

17. A process for preparing a compound of the formula (1) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate thereof which process comprises:
a) reacting a carboxylic acid of Formula (8) or a reactive derivative thereof with a piperazine of formula (9)

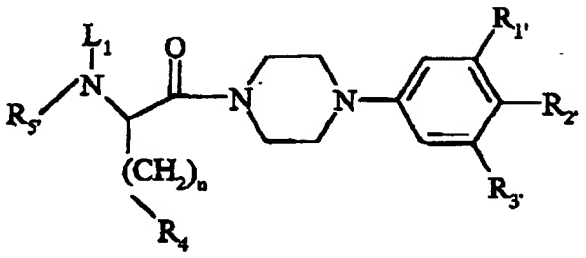


Formula (8)



Formula (9)

wherein $L_1$, n, $R_4$, $R_{1'}$–$R_{3'}$ and $R_{5'}$ are as herein above defined.
To form a compound of Formula (7)



Formula (7)

b) removing any protecting groups,

c) optionally forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, prodrug or solvate.

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